PLAYBOY'S
SPORTING WOMEN

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DOZENS OF HITS, NO ERRORS

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PLAYBOY'S

SPORTING WOMEN

PLAYBOY PRESS

We have always taken pride in featuring in the pages of PLAYBOY women who are in perfect physical shape. They didn't get that way by accident. They understand the importance of following a proper regimen of diet and exercise. They are rarely sedentary.

When we were growing up, we thought sports were just for the guys. Home Ec and cheerleading were the proper preserves of the girls in our lives. They could yell us on to our greatest athletic achievements, but let them pick up a Louisville Slugger and we'd pick up our ball and go home. Girls were for appreciating sports, not playing them. Girls were supposed to *date* jocks, not become them.

That was then; this is now. Today, women compete as equals. Experts predict that women, because they're more buoyant, will one day break *all* the swimming records. Martina Navratilova is reputed to be the best-paid athlete in the world. Pumping iron is as much a female activity as it is a male activity. There is a difference, however. Women usually look better than men do in their athletic endeavors.

Sports are about the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. PLAYBOY is about beautiful women. Put them together and you've got *Playboy's Sporting Women*, which is about the thrill of beautiful women and the agony of having only 112 pages in which to show them. But every page will contribute to your cardiovascular health. Put away the exercycle—this will be the best workout your heart has had today.

This special edition of PLAYBOY proves that games have an allure that transcends the players. That's why ours is the most sports-minded society in history. If this book adds to your appreciation of the fine forms displayed on our playing fields, we've batted a thousand. There's the whistle; let's begin.

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Play ball! Our PLAYBOY softball team may be a little short on equipment, but the fans have never complained. The players have each won MVP (Most Voluptuous Player) awards. If more teams were like this one, softball fever would sweep across the country. At right, the girls of summer continue a colorful diamond tradition—the rhubarb.

Certain women are drawn to the water like sea nymphs. Any kind of boat has allure for these devotees of the deep. Whether a lumbering pontoon or a speedboat that leaves everything rocking in its wake, if it's buoyant, it will be okay. Even a beached dinghy can attract a spectacular blonde. When she gets that boat afloat, she'll be in her milieu.

COLUMBIA

This is more recreation than sport, but we couldn't resist the chance to focus on a deeply tanned Jolanda Egger and her dappled stallion. Little girls love horses. It is not our job to analyze that particular fascination. We're just happy that grown-up Jolanda likes to find wide-open, unpeopled spaces and ride like the wind.

"One foot on the floor" is one of pool's inviolable rules, but it was never meant to be so picturesque. As Professor Harold Hill said, "You got one, two, three, four, five, six pockets in a table, pockets that mark the difference between a gentleman and a bum, with a capital B and that rhymes with P and that stands for pool!" When Monique St. Pierre is the shooter, a capital P stands for Perfection.

The set and spike are fundamental, but in beach volleyball, a scuffle adds to the enjoyment. A sneaky move by Player A upsets Player B's timing, ruining the point but improving the scenery. They both hit the sand. Player A rises in triumph and claims the ball as her trophy. It's not whether you win or lose, but how you play the game.

Scuba stands for *self-contained underwater breathing apparatus* and is a piece of equipment that opens up a whole world of eerie beauty. Scuba gear lets you join the fish in their natural habitat. Deep-sea fishing, on the other hand, invites the fish to join you. You can even take a little nap and work on your tan while you're waiting for a big one to strike.

Many people are unaware of the popularity of dog-sled racing. More than one hundred and fifty such races take place annually, with women and men competing equally. But this driver is peerless.

In a world full of beautiful women, the sporting woman stands out. Is it because she's in touch with nature, or in touch with her body? Same thing, really, since the tone of her body— the way it gains definition without bulking up— is one of the world's natural wonders. She may look dainty and fragile, but her strength might surprise you.

A picture is worth a thousand words. For instance, our dictionary says, *Lure: a bait for animals, especially an artificial one used in fishing; or the power of attracting, tempting or enticing.* Not quite a thousand, but then words are altogether unnecessary when you have graphic representations of both definitions like the ones we've pictured here.

Once upon a time, there were three girls looking for some excitement. Playmate Hope Olson, Bunny Cindy Russell and Playmate Patti McGuire (above, left to right, with guide) wanted to go rafting on the Colorado River. Photographer Richard Fegley went along to record the adventure. The trip began at Marble Canyon, Arizona, ending approximately two hundred miles—and five days—later. The PLAYBOY team rarely encountered other people along its route, enabling the women to take advantage of the freedom Mother Nature offers. Patti discovered that Mother Nature sometimes plays rough. A makeshift sauna (left) relieved some of the soreness of her aching muscles.

A motorized pontoon navigated the course through about a hundred and fifty rapids. The ladies quickly learned that staying dry while negotiating white water was impossible and began wearing only life preservers while they were on the raft. They also learned to hang on for dear life, since being tossed overboard was a constant threat.

Our trio found quiet pools in which to bathe. At each campsite, they encountered local wildlife, including several varieties of lizard. Overleaf: At day's end, they were happy to stretch out, letting the sun's rays warm bodies that had been steeped in the cold Colorado for several hours. Would they do it again? Is the Canyon Grand?

Playmate Susan Smith went into training for a brief fling at wrestling. She was already in great shape and only needed to learn the tricks of the trade—how to throw and pin her man. Tough as she was, she failed to intimidate all comers. Every man she encountered wanted to climb into the ring and take Susan to the mat. A woman like this should never ever be counted out.

Marianne Gravatte can come out of the water looking like Venus or she can ride it like Neptune. What she can't do is look less than graceful. Marianne is as athletic as the next sporting woman, but she has the classical beauty and demeanor of a goddess. You look for that quality in a Playmate of the Year, a title bestowed on her in 1983.

CF 592 GZ

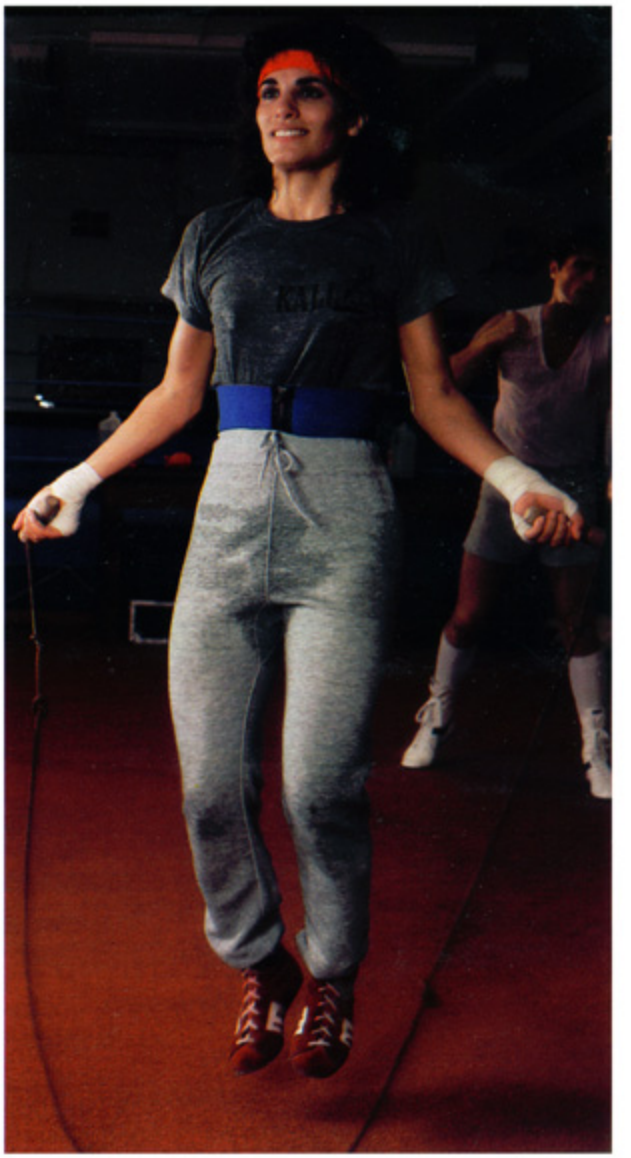
jet ski
Kawasaki
OF 75 2 GZ
82

The sporting girl knows how to survive in today's wild west. It's a place for the fast draw, the snap decision. One way to head 'em off at the pass is to make sure no red-blooded cowhand can bring himself to ride past. We might lament the passing of the good old days, but we have these modern reminders of what they should have looked like.

Landlocked citizens are a most unfortunate group of people because they're missing out on some fabulous scenery. Californians have access to sights like Victoria Cooke almost every day. Sailboarding is exhausting work. When she tires, Victoria uses the board as a convenient resting place, gives her muscles a respite and goes at it again.

Gymnastics has taken the country by storm during the past two decades. It all started with a tiny Russian named Olga Korbut. The U.S.A. produced a winning team for the 1984 Olympics and made Marylou Retton a national heroine. Karen Price is our heroine. She's a winner in the gym or any other place. Her secret is practice, practice.

A few years ago, there was debate over which sport is our *real* national pastime. Football fans pointed to their game's hard-hitting excitement; baseball fans maintained that the summer game is the best reflection of the nation's soul. Polls were taken and arguments defended. The result was a compromise—girl watching was named the winner.



We introduced Graciela Casillas to our readers in February 1984. They were pleased by her attributes and amazed by her accomplishments. At 26, she held the World Karate Association and Women's Boxing Association bantamweight titles. With this encore appearance, Graciela garners a new title; she is the *toughest* of PLAYBOY's sporting women.

Skiers will tell you that schussing down a mountain is more than simply a fun way to risk breaking a leg. Skiing's risks are outweighed by the aesthetics that present themselves at ski lodges. You may come off the hill totally done in, but when you sit by the fire sipping a hot toddy, the surroundings make you forget all about aches and pains.

Dart throwing is not the most physically demanding game, but it does require a cool head and a keen eye. Though the moves are simple, spectators appreciate the attention to form as shown here. The players on these and the next two pages don't score many bull's-eyes, but they are having fun. Isn't that what the game is supposed to be about?

SPORTCRAFT
20 1 18 4 13 6 10 15 2 17 3 19 7 16 8 11 14 9 12 5
STRIKE
SACRIFICE
STOLEN BASE
BALL
3

Backpacking is a nice way to take a little detour from the fast lane. If you know someone who has a great little cabin up in the mountains, get out your hiking boots and go. A couple of days in fresh air, away from urban sounds and smells, can be incredibly rejuvenating. You'll store up energy and be ready to jump back into the mainstream.

The biker lady and the girl on a bicycle—one burns up the road with a vengeance, the other pedals along and stops to smell the flowers. They're unconcerned with winning and losing. They're out in the sun with the wind in their hair. They're not keeping score. They have no particular destination. Don't turn down a ride from either one.

Every serious athlete knows the importance of warming up before strenuous activity. These curvaceous competitors are getting ready for the Playmate Play-Offs, a spectacular sports event staged at Playboy Mansion West. The contestants are some of the most beautiful women in the world. What they lack in "beef," they make up for in determination.

Tug-of-war has not been sanctioned by the Olympic committee, but the way it's played by our Playmates is as exciting as anything you'll see at an international track-and-field meet. Sometimes it gets low down and dirty. But the players have a team spirit that is evident even after the match has ended, lending a helping hand wherever it's needed.

Now you can enjoy all the excitement of the Playmate Play-Offs right at home on an exclusive Playboy Video presentation. These photos offer just a hint of the fun in this one-of-a-kind athletic extravaganza. *Playmate Play-Offs* is available at your local video store. For additional information or to order a cassette by phone, see our inside back cover.

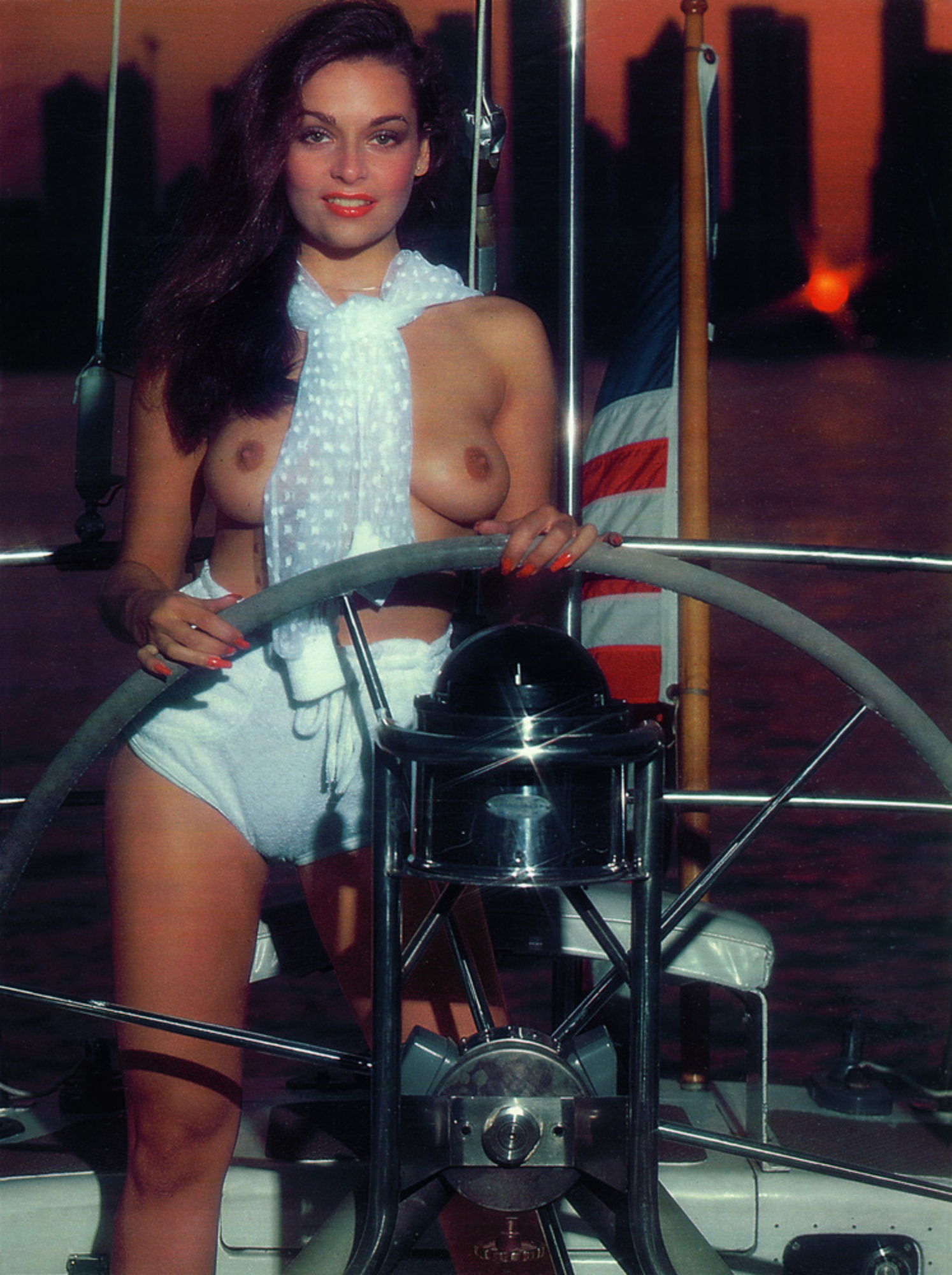
Dressage is a beautiful thing to watch—horse and rider moving as an entity with no perceptible communication passing between them. Nude bareback riding on the beach is the extreme opposite of the formal, controlled movements of competition, but it also is a beautiful sight to behold.

You find a secluded spot on the lake, bait your hook and let fly. Then you wait. Sometimes you'll wait for hours with nothing but the breeze and dragonflies stirring the surface of the water. But fishing isn't simply the thrill of catching a big one. The quiet solitude affords a unique opportunity to reflect on the grandeur of the natural surroundings.

From a thousand feet above, the ground looks like an enormous Mondrian canvas for a few seconds during the suspended animation of free-fall. And then you see the earth rushing up to meet your face. Former Marine Corps Sergeant Bambi Lin Finney demonstrates how it's done, giving us a bird's-eye view above and an eyeful at right.

Pumping iron and martial arts are part of Roberta Vasquez' routine for keeping in top form. She doesn't compete with other body builders before a panel of judges. As PLAYBOY's December 1984 Playmate, her's has already been adjudged one of the best bodies ever built. There's more of Roberta's fabulous physique on the next four pages.

Setting off on a sea cruise with a first mate like Liz Glazowski is the sailor's ideal. The sea may turn from friend to foe, the radio may go out and supplies run short, but the sailor hardly notices. When Liz smiles, the sun shines and it's smooth sailing all the way.



Waterskiers admit that their sport isn't as dangerous as skiing on snow, but they maintain that it's just as thrilling and much more fun. If we had to choose between them, we'd opt for the water sport. The scenery is so much better.

Sports that have been male dominated could benefit from female invasion. We often hear of the death of boxing. More participants like the one above would guarantee renewed spectator interest. Motocross could become a nationally televised sport. And a pack of bikers like the one at right would actually be welcomed in most towns.

ASPEN

It gets cold at high altitudes, but the sportswoman is not put off by the temperature. For sheer love of freedom, she bares her body to the elements, confident that she can keep her balance. Whether she's on snowmobile or skis, that balance is precarious. What's fortunate is that if she falls, she'll have no shortage of gallant ski patrollers to rescue her.

Yachting is a rich man's—or woman's—sport, but for sun worshippers, no price is too much to pay for a really great tan. Of course, you don't actually have to leave the dock. Overleaf: Swimming is the best all-around sport for maintaining a healthy body. It exercises every muscle, as well as the cardiovascular system. It increases lung capacity.

In Venice, California, land of the free spirit and home of the brave roller skater, nobody cares how you look as long as you can skate well. Well, our ladies are not only good skates, they skate well and look sensational. In the carnival atmosphere of Venice, among the boom boxes and street performers, these low rollers would be star attractions.

On your mark, get set, relax! What's the point in breaking her heart over a bike race when a sporting woman can take a break, strike a pose and attract admiring fans. Jogging should be preceded by stretches and followed by a cooling down. We'd recommend fruit juice to replace lost fluids, but a girl's entitled to whatever makes her feel good.

Landing the prop plane in the frozen north, far from the crowds and the curious, she debarks and sets up camp. The silence is palpable, like the chill in the air. She may hike or ski cross-country, beautifully nude, eluding frostbite by the barest of margins. These sporting woman have hardy souls and beauty that is equal to the environment.

FLYING
SEAPLANES
How and Where to
Test Your Water Wings

In warm climates, the sporting is splashy and the women can be flashy, especially those who present us with an updated version of that old favorite, skinny-dipping. Every beach could offer such a picture-postcard setting, given the right light, the right tide and the right woman. Lack of inhibition is what makes this such a dazzling exhibition.

Indoor sports usually aren't of the sweat-and-strain kind, but they are no less exciting to the spectator. Pinball will never be an Olympic event, but played as above by Kym Malin, it could draw Olympic-sized crowds. As for billiards, even the great Minnesota Fats would have trouble keeping his eye on the ball with Slim Kym around.

In the rugged north country, women are expected to be as tough and resourceful as any man. Whether she is paddling a kayak through bracing waters while dodging mini-icebergs, casting for giant salmon or drifting in a canoe with a defiant gleam in her eye, the sportswoman in the land of the big chill is enough to warm the cockles of every sportsman's heart.

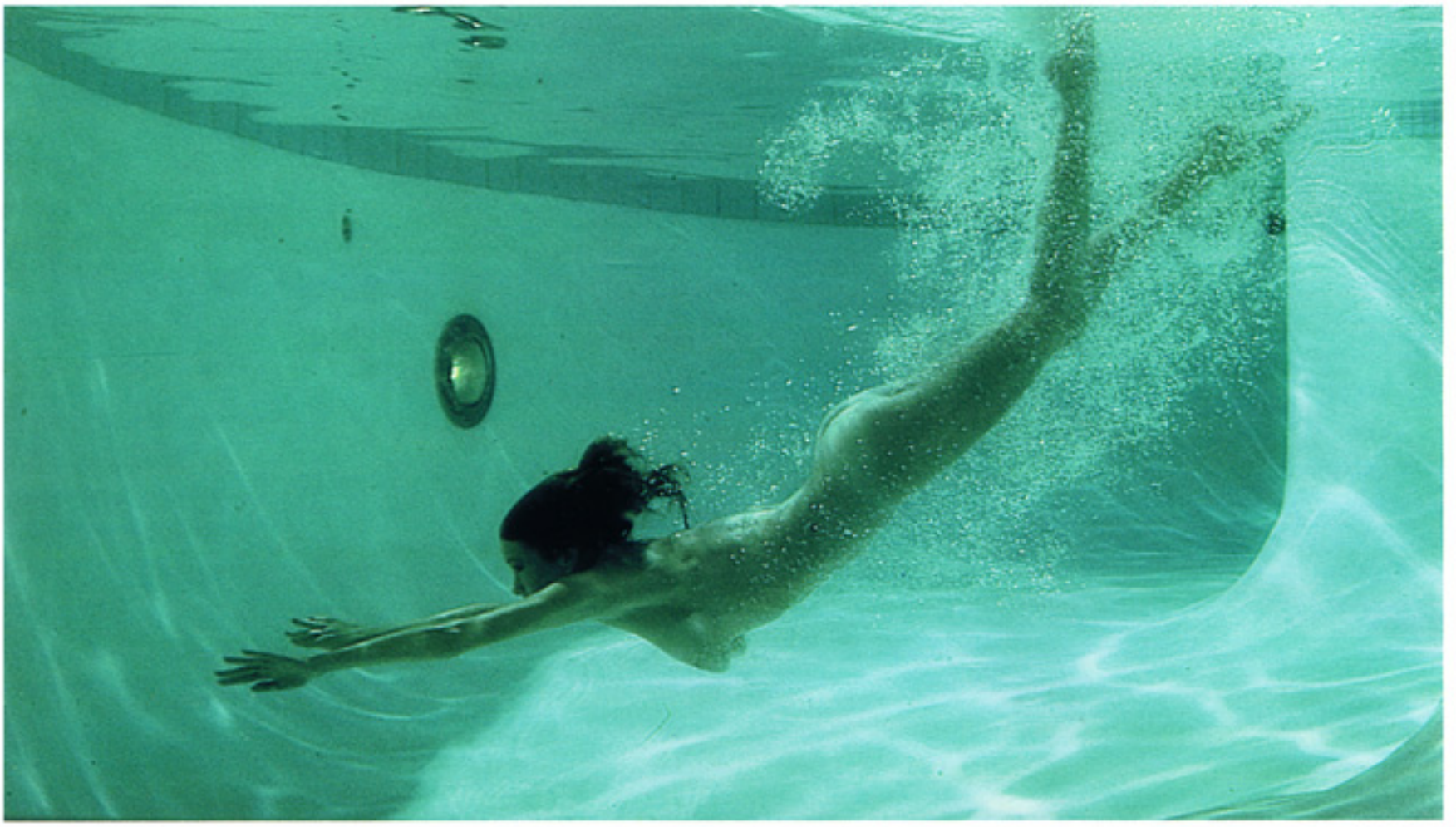
The only thing better than seeing a beautiful woman in a wetsuit is seeing her out of one. You can gaze out to sea for a long time without spying a sight like this, but patience is a virtue that sometimes reaps rewards. Wind surfing is not for the weak-willed. It takes a lot of strength, balance and concentration to make it look effortlessly elegant.

Yee-ha! Down Texas way, the great old ranches are shrinking and malls are replacing them, but the urban cowgirl still gets her kicks. A club near Houston called Gilley's kicked off the fad. Before long, hard-charging beauties everywhere were making like Debra Winger on the backs of mechanical bulls. The resulting bumps and bruises took nothing away from the cowgirl's All-American attraction.

Come fly with me, her eyes say. Whether she soars with eagles in a hot-air balloon or brushes tree tops in a small plane, an aviatrix has a special appeal. Is it the rarefied air in which she operates that leaves you breathless, or is it her aerodynamics? Overleaf: Our pilot has found a remote spot and pitched her tent for a solo overnight campout.

Tennis is the only game in which love is part of the score—appropriate enough when it's played by such a matchless example of sportswomanhood. Tracy Vaccaro serves, volleys, reacts to an errant shot and displays a formidable net game, all with the grace of the finely tuned athlete. Even her post-game form leaves nothing to be desired.

Stress is a major problem of contemporary society. Physical exercise is recommended as one way to alleviate tension. For a healthy mind in a healthy body, follow the example of our sportswoman at the office; take a break and turn your thoughts to recreational activities.



Hold your breath until you turn blue, you still won't find a better submarine spectacle than the stripped-down, streamlined sporting woman swimming nude in a crystalline pool. Candy Loving enjoys the feel of the water around her, the clean, cool sensation of splash on her skin. In the workout room, she shows she can pull her own weight.

Some intrepid sportswomen blaze their own trails and stake out areas where few dare to follow. Unmarked, open spaces are the favored hideaways of the rugged individualist who fends for herself. Not for her the overcrowded bike trails full of casual jocks. This one-woman show needs no onlookers, though it's a lucky one who finds her.

We've presented our sporting women in the air, on the land and at sea. They have shown they can compete with sporting men at all the games they play without surrendering a drop of femininity. As we approach the end, Kymberly Herrin gives an over-the-shoulder look that seems to be an invitation to join her in the surf anytime you're ready.

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REACHING NEW HEIGHTS IN GAMESMANSHIP

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